

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-4, 6, 10-12, and 14-16 have been amended herein. All of the pending claims 1 through 17 are presented below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings in the application. Please enter these claims as amended.

1. (Currently Amended) A linear bearing assembly, comprising:
a bearing slide comprising a plurality of walls defining a cavity;
a plurality of bearing pads, wherein each bearing pad is secured to a respective wall of the plurality with at least one retention member; and
at least one adjustment element carried by the bearing slide in cooperation with at least one bearing pad of the plurality for adjusting a position of the at least one bearing pad relative to the respective wall of the plurality to which the at least one bearing pad is secured.
2. (Currently Amended) The linear bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one adjustment element comprises a set screw received in a threaded aperture extending through the respective wall of the plurality to which the at least one bearing pad is secured.
3. (Currently Amended) The linear bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one retention-member member comprises ~~bolts~~ at least one bolt extending through the plurality walls of the bearing slide and into engagement with threaded bores in the at least one bearing ~~pads~~ pad.
4. (Currently Amended) The linear bearing assembly of claim 3, wherein the threaded bores in the at least one bearing ~~pads~~ pad are located in tee-nuts embedded in the at least one bearing pads.

5. (Original) The linear bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one bearing pad includes a backing plate configured to provide stiffness thereto bonded to a rear face thereof.

6. (Currently Amended) The linear bearing assembly of claim 5, wherein the at least one adjustment element comprises a set screw received in a threaded aperture extending through the respective wall of the plurality to which the at least one bearing pad is secured.

7. (Original) The linear bearing assembly of claim 6, wherein the at least one adjustment element comprises a spring plunger.

8. (Original) The linear bearing assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one adjustment element comprises a biasing element.

9. (Original) A method of adjusting bearing pad fit in a linear bearing assembly, comprising:
providing a linear bearing assembly including at least one bearing pad secured to a wall of a bearing slide with at least one retention member;
releasing the at least one retention member to permit the at least one bearing pad to be displaced away from the wall;
advancing at least one adjustment element carried by the bearing slide to contact a rear face of the at least one bearing pad.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the at least one retention member comprises a bolt ~~threaded~~ affixed to the at least one bearing pad, and releasing the at least one retention member comprises ~~backing off~~ moving the bolt away from the at least one bearing pad.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the at least one adjustment element comprises a set screw threaded in an aperture through the wall and advancing the at least one adjustment element comprises advancing the set screw toward the at least one bearing pad.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the at least one adjustment element comprises a set screw threaded in an aperture through the wall and advancing the at least one adjustment element comprises advancing the set screw toward the at least one bearing pad.

13. (Original) A method of adjusting an abutting force to a bearing pad in a linear bearing assembly, comprising:
providing a linear bearing assembly including at least one bearing pad secured to a wall of a bearing slide with at least one retention member;
providing a guide rail having a side abutting the at least one bearing pad;
applying a force to abut the at least one bearing pad against the side of the guide rail; and
selectively adjusting the force abutting the at least one bearing pad against the side of the guide rail in contact therewith by way of adjusting at least one adjustment element carried by the bearing slide to contact a rear face of the at least one bearing pad.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein selectively adjusting the force abutting the at least one bearing pad against the side of the guide rail comprises releasing ~~at~~ the at least one retention member that secures the at least one bearing pad to a the wall of the bearing slide.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein selectively adjusting the force abutting the at least one bearing pad against the side of the guide rail comprises advancing a set screw toward the at least one bearing pad.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein selectively adjusting the force abutting the at least one bearing pad against the side of the guide rail comprises ~~tightening~~ moving the at least one retention member that secures the at least one bearing pad to ~~a~~ the wall of the bearing slide toward the at least one bearing pad.

17. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein selectively adjusting the force abutting the at least one bearing pad against the side of the guide rail comprises adjusting a biasing element.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 1, 2, and 3. These sheets, which include FIGS. 1, 2, and 3, replace the original sheets including FIGS. 1, 2, and 3.